



# Massachusetts Department of Public Health

## Bureau of Infectious Disease and Laboratory Sciences

### Disease Status Report



#### Reportable Disease: Active Tuberculosis

Tuberculosis (TB) is caused by the bacterium *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (*M. tuberculosis*) and usually affects the lungs. TB is spread through the air when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or speaks.

- In 2015, 192 cases of active Tuberculosis were reported to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health or 2.8 cases for every 100,000 residents.
- Eighty-seven percent of these cases were in persons born outside the United States (n=167), largely from Asia (51%), Africa (18%), the Caribbean (13%), and Latin America (13%).
- Suffolk County had the highest incidence rate at 6.4 cases per 100,000 residents, followed by Worcester County at 3.4 and Middlesex County at 3.2 cases per 100,000 residents.
- In 2015, Massachusetts had 30 cases (21%) that were resistance to one or more TB drugs, and seven cases resistant to INH and RIF (5%), or multi-drug resistance TB (MDR-TB).

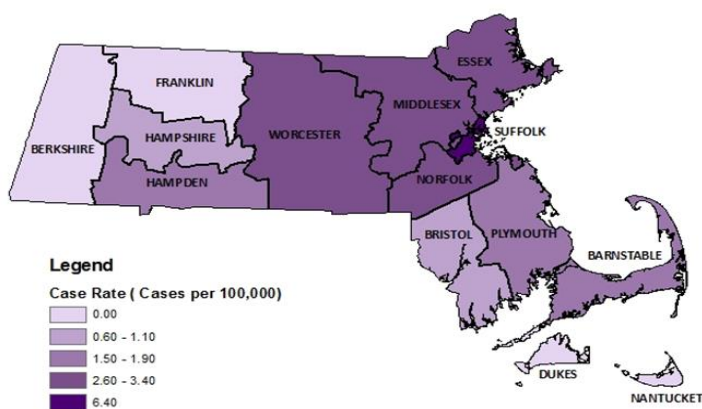
#### More Information

[Case Definition](#)

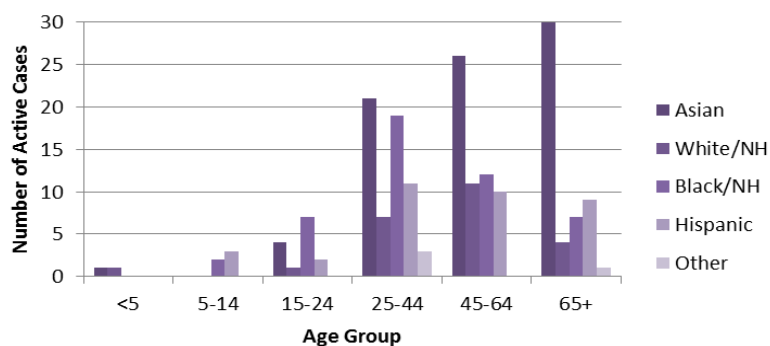
[Fact Sheet](#)

[TB Annual Report](#)

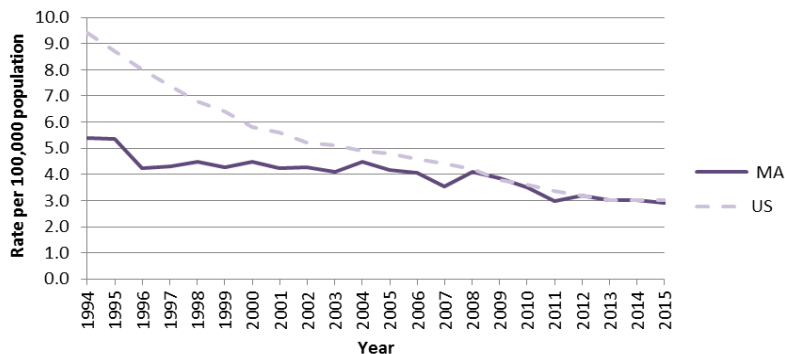
Rate per 100,000 Population of Confirmed Cases of Active Tuberculosis by Massachusetts County, 2015



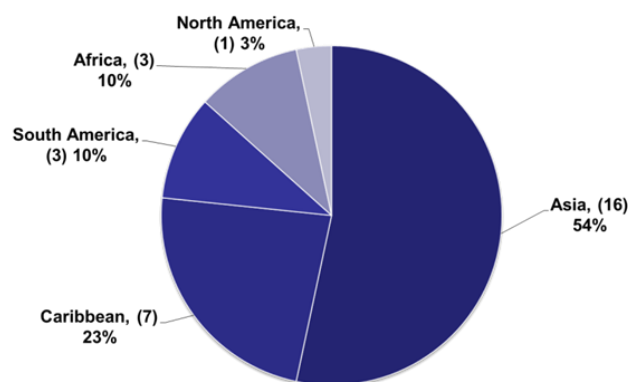
Active Tuberculosis Cases by Age, Race/Ethnicity, Massachusetts, 2015



Rate of Active Tuberculosis Cases, United States and Massachusetts, 1994-2014



Drug Resistant Active Tuberculosis Cases by Place of Birth\* Massachusetts, 2015 (N=30)



\*Regions defined using UN classifications  
<http://esa.un.org/wpp/Excel-Data/country-classification.pdf>

Rate per 100,000 Population of Confirmed Active Tuberculosis Cases Reported in MA by County and Year, 2010-2015

|                   | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
|-------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| All Massachusetts | 3.50 | 2.99 | 3.20 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 2.80 |
| Barnstable County | 0.00 | 1.29 | 1.40 | 0.90 | 1.40 | 1.90 |
| Berkshire County  | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.80 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 0.00 |
| Bristol County    | 2.10 | 1.28 | 2.20 | 1.50 | 0.50 | 1.10 |
| Essex County      | 2.60 | 3.50 | 4.00 | 1.60 | 2.30 | 2.60 |
| Franklin County   | 0.00 | 1.40 | 1.40 | 1.40 | 1.40 | 0.00 |
| Hampden County    | 2.90 | 2.37 | 2.40 | 2.80 | 2.20 | 1.50 |
| Hampshire County  | 2.00 | 2.53 | 1.30 | 0.60 | 0.60 | 0.60 |
| Middlesex County  | 4.40 | 4.19 | 4.10 | 4.50 | 4.30 | 3.20 |
| Norfolk County    | 2.40 | 1.79 | 2.70 | 2.10 | 3.10 | 2.60 |
| Plymouth County   | 2.50 | 0.61 | 1.40 | 2.00 | 0.60 | 1.60 |
| Suffolk County    | 9.20 | 7.06 | 7.90 | 6.70 | 7.00 | 6.40 |
| Worcester County  | 2.40 | 1.75 | 1.40 | 2.80 | 2.90 | 3.40 |